

Discovery of New Wheat Seed to Increase Yield

8514. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Agriculture University has discovered a new type of wheat seed which will increase the yield per acre of land to an appreciable extent;

(b) if so, which are the States in India which have tried these seeds; and

(c) whether other States will also take to experimenting these seeds in order to increase the yield?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A durum wheat variety DWL 5023 with high yield potential and having better degree of resistance to yellow and brown rusts and Karnal Bunt than other commercial varieties such as Sonalika, WL 711, Arjun etc., have been developed recently.

(b) and (c). This variety is considered suitable for commercial cultivation under timely sown, irrigated good fertility conditions in the plains of Jammu, Punjab, Western Uttar Pradesh, Eastern Haryana, Delhi and parts of Rajasthan. The variety was tested for three years in the above mentioned States before it is recommended for cultivation in them.

Conversion of Marginal Farmers into Viable Farmers

8515. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of farmers have turned to be marginal year after year during last five years; and

(b) if so, what are the details regarding the measures adopted to be taken by the Government to see that the marginal farmers are turned into viable farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The data on the number of marginal farmers during the last five years are not available. Agricultural Census (with reference period) 1980-81 is currently in progress and its results are expected in 1983. Only after that a comparative study with the data of 1976-77 Agricultural Census could be made.

(b) Does not arise.

पाम आयल और रेपसीड आयल के लिये उचित दर की दुकानों के मालिकों द्वारा जमा की गई धनराशि

8516. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उचित दर की दुकानों के मालिकों द्वारा गत दो महीनों के दौरान पाम आयल और रेपसीड आयल के लिए दिल्ली नागरिक पूर्ति विभाग में कितनी धनराशि जमा की गई है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि गत दो महीनों से आज तक राशन की दुकानों को रेपसीड आयल और पाम आयल की सप्लाई नहीं की गई है, और यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) उनको रेपसीड आयल और पाम आयल की शीघ्र सप्लाई करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?